

"OVERCAPITALIZATION KEEPS DOWN WAGE FUND," ASSERTS MR. ROOSEVELT

President Declines to
Deliver Speech at
Springfield.

CALLS ATTENTION
TO HIS SPEECHES

Which Set Out Fully His Ideas
Regarding Government Super-
vision of Railways and Evils
of "Watered Stock."
Is No Enemy to
Wealth.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—President Roosevelt has decided not to accept the invitation to the Illinois Manufacturers' Association to deliver a speech at Springfield, Ill., on the railroad situation. He addressed a letter yesterday to C. F. Smith, president of the association, stating that it would be impossible for him to accept the invitation extended last week, because he did not feel that he had anything to say at this time in a special address on this special subject.

The President has received a great number of requests for a statement by him, or a speech to be made by him, in connection with the railway situation. He has given these requests the utmost weight and most careful consideration. After fully looking into the matter, the President informed his advisers that he had come to the conclusion that there was nothing new which he had to say at this time on the railway situation; that he did not deem it either wise or proper to say anything with a view to any immediate situation in Wall Street, and that as he should only give expression to the definite and settled policy to be carried out wholly without regard to the statements of the moment, and as his views on the policy in question were already a matter of record, it did not seem necessary at this time to repeat them.

Acts Speak for Themselves.

The different men, friendly and unfriendly, who have visited him or written to him, he has answered verbally or in writing that his words and acts speak for themselves, and needed no explanation whatever, and that he should not in his future course devote one hand's breadth from the course he had pursued in the past and was now pursuing.

The statement was made from an authoritative source to-day that "even a most cursory examination of what the President has repeatedly said in speech and message will show the utter nonsense of supposing the government has the slightest intention to take any action which would invalidate the safety and stability of the railway securities now issued, the whole legislative program of the President having been repeated again and again as one to insure the future against the mistakes and delinquencies of the past. The President holds that every executive action taken under his administration, whether by the Department of Justice or by the Interstate Commerce Commission, has furnished its own ample justification."

It can be stated on authority that the President again will ask Congress, at its next session, for power to deal with the question of overcapitalization of railroads. A similar request was made at the last session, but favorable action was not taken upon it.

Raleigh Speech.

In his letter to Mr. Smith the President encloses copies of the speech he made at Raleigh, N. C., October 12, 1905, and the one he delivered before a delegation of railway employees in this city on November 14, 1905, together with his last messages to Congress at the beginning of the first and second sessions of the last Congress. The President concluded his letter to Mr. Smith as follows:

"You will see in the two speeches and the two messages that I have said about all I would say if I spoke now. As I said to your body the other day, I have already expressed again and again my carefully thought-out beliefs. I am more firmly than ever convinced that these beliefs are wise, and that the policy I recommended in my messages at the opening of each of the last regular sessions of Congress must be carried out."

The portions of his speeches and messages which the President marked are as follows:

Not for Government Ownership.

In his address at Raleigh the President said:

"I do not believe in government ownership of anything which can with propriety be left in private hands, and in particular I should most strenuously object to government ownership of railroads. But I believe with equal firmness that it is out of the question for the government not to exert a supervisory and regulatory right over the railroads; for it is vital to the well-being of the public that they should be managed in a spirit of fairness and justice toward all the public. Actual experience has shown that it is not possible to leave the railroads uncontrolled. Such a system, or, rather, such a lack of system, is fertile in abuses of every kind, and puts a premium upon unscrupulous and ruthless cunning in railroad management; for there are some big shippers and some railroad managers who are always willing to take unfair advantage of their weaker competitors, and they thereby force other big shippers and big railroad men—who would like to do decently—into similar acts of wrong and injustice, under penalty of being left behind in the race for business."

"Government supervision is needed quite as much in the interest

Roosevelt on Railroads

"I am convinced that there must be an increased regulatory and supervisory power exercised by the government over the railroads. Indeed, I would like to see the 'wage fund' much greater than I have any idea of pressing at the moment."

"For instance, I would greatly like to have it exercised in the matter of overcapitalization. I am convinced that the 'wage fund' would be larger if there was no fictitious capital upon which dividends had to be paid. I need hardly say that this does not mean hostility to wealth. But I shall act against the abuses of wealth just as against all other abuses."

From Roosevelt's speech to railroad men in November, 1905.

JUROR COULD NOT READ OR WRITE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Italian on Favorit Jury Did Not
Know the English
Language.

NEW ORLEANS, April 1.—Inability on the part of a juror to read and write the English language has resulted in a decided turn in the case of Congress-elect Favrot, of the Sixth District of Louisiana, who has been confined in jail for seven months, charged with the murder of Dr. R. H. Aldrich, in Baton Rouge, last summer.

In the District Court a demurrer to the indictment was sustained on the grounds that one member of the jury, an Italian, could not read nor write the English language. The State appealed the case to the Supreme Court, which this afternoon affirmed the decision of the lower court.

Favrot is badly damaged; that they are killed Dr. Aldrich for reasons he believed Aldrich to have cast on his family.

EARTHQUAKE IN TURKISH ARMENIA

A Severe Earthquake Wrecks
Bitlis and People Are En-
camped in Deep Snow.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 1.—The report that a severe earthquake, accompanied by loss of life, has occurred at Bitlis, Turkish Armenia, appears to be confirmed, but the number of deaths is unknown.

Beyond a brief message from the missionaries at Bitlis, reporting that the town is badly damaged; that they are homeless, and that their people are encamped in the snow, which in places is twenty feet deep, no news of the disaster has reached this city.

LONDON, April 1.—The situation of Bitlis, which is built on a rocky slope, with houses constructed of stone, having flat, earthen roofs, causes people here to fear that a great amount of damage has been done.

It is described as a picturesque, sparsely populated town, having but a few Europeans among the population. British vice-consul is stationed there, but at present he is absent on leave.

According to advices received in New York from W. W. Peet, treasurer of the American mission at Constantinople, the Americans and their people in the missions at Bitlis have been rendered homeless, the snow in the vicinity being twenty-five feet deep. Assistance was urgently requested.

PRESIDENT'S PLANS FOR JAMESTOWN

Accompanied by His Family, He
Will Make Trip on May-
flower.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—President Roosevelt will be accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt, their two younger sons, Archie and Quentin, and possibly by Miss Ethel Roosevelt, on their trip to the Jamestown Exposition, for which they will leave Washington on the afternoon of April 25th. According to the President's understanding, the trip will be made on the yacht Mayflower, which will be the President's headquarters from the time he leaves until he returns.

Exposition Day, April 26th, will be a busy one for Mr. Roosevelt. Various addresses, including his speech, will occupy the time from 11 o'clock in the morning until 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Some time between the latter hour and 8 o'clock there will be a reception to the Governors of States, diplomats and other distinguished guests. At 8 o'clock the President will be the guest at dinner of Harry H. George, Tucker, head of the Exposition company, at his home in Norfolk, following which the Mayflower with Mr. Roosevelt and his family aboard, will return to Washington. Mr. Tucker was at the White House to-day, consulting with the President about the features of his visit and the program for opening day.

CHANGES IN POSTAL RATES BETWEEN U. S. AND CANADA

WASHINGTON, April 1.—At a conference between Postmaster-General Loomis, of Canada, and Postmaster-General Meyer, of the United States, in this city to-day, an agreement was reached to amend the postal convention existing between the two countries in so far as it affects the transmission of newspapers and periodicals, known as second-class matter, between the two countries. Canada accepts the tentative proposal of this country that second-class matter mailed in one country and addressed to the other might be subject to a rate of one cent for each four ounces or fraction thereof on each bulk package; prepaid by stamps affixed.

STREET RAILWAY LITIGATION AGAIN

Metropolitan Trust Co.
Seeks to Reopen Case
Now Nearly Closed.

APPLICATION TO
FILE NEW PETITION

Counsel for Gould and Allied
Companies Present Vigorous
Reply, Alleging That
Move Is Designed to
Force Purchase
of Bonds.

Before Judge Waddill, in the United States Circuit Court, yesterday morning a new move was made in the litigation concerning the street car lines of Richmond—a move which may possibly reopen the entire controversy and keep the trolley lines of this city and Petersburg in the hands of receivers for many long days yet to come.

The latest development in the situation is a further step on the part of the Metropolitan Trust Company, of New York, in the famous case of the Bowling Green Trust Company and others against the Virginia Passengers and Power Company and others. Messrs. Davis & Davis, of Petersburg, the attorneys of the Metropolitan Trust Company, formally made application to Judge Waddill to be allowed to file a new petition in the case, and the judge has set Thursday, April 11th, as the time to hear the application to file. In the meantime representatives of the Virginia Passengers and Power Company and of the other street railway companies that have been consolidated with that concern and counsel for Mr. Frank J. Gould, the largest stockholder, have prepared and placed in the hands of the court their answer to the application of the counsel for the Metropolitan Trust Company. Messrs. Henry W. Anderson, Miles M. Martin and Frank W. Christian were the lawyers representing these interests, who met Messrs. Davis & Davis in the United States Circuit Court yesterday morning.

The result of the action of the trust company, should its petition finally be granted, would be to reopen the long-standing case to be gone all over again, and would throw the affairs of the street car companies into a new state of legal chaos and uncertainty, in which event it is more than likely that no adult citizen of Richmond would live long enough to see the properties involved taken out of the hands of receivers.

Lengthy and Historical.

The petition which the Metropolitan Trust Company seeks to file is a very lengthy document, arranged in book form, and covering something over 150 printed pages. It rehearses in minute detail the history of the street railway business and all its troubles, legal and otherwise, from the days of Financier Fisher until the present time. It recounts how the various companies were organized, how they were consolidated, and how the consolidation of the lines was effected under the general name of the Virginia Passengers and Power Company; how Mr. Gould became interested; how the litigation that led to the appointment of Messrs. Northrup and Wickham as receivers, the holders of the debenture bonds of the Richmond Passengers and Power Company and the Richmond Traction Company did not get a "fair deal."

Proceeding, the petition goes on to set up the claims of the Metropolitan Trust Company, which is the holder of certain bonds known as debenture bonds of the Richmond Passengers and Power Company and the Richmond Traction Company, which were secured by an debenture mortgage on the properties of these companies previous to their being merged with the Virginia Passengers and Power Company. Furthermore, the petition alleges that the Richmond Passengers and Power Company, the Richmond Traction Company and the Richmond Traction Company did not get a "fair deal."

What Is Asked.

Therefore the petition which is sought to be filed concludes with a lengthy prayer, of which the following is a synopsis:

That after taking the accounts submitted by the Metropolitan Trust Company.

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

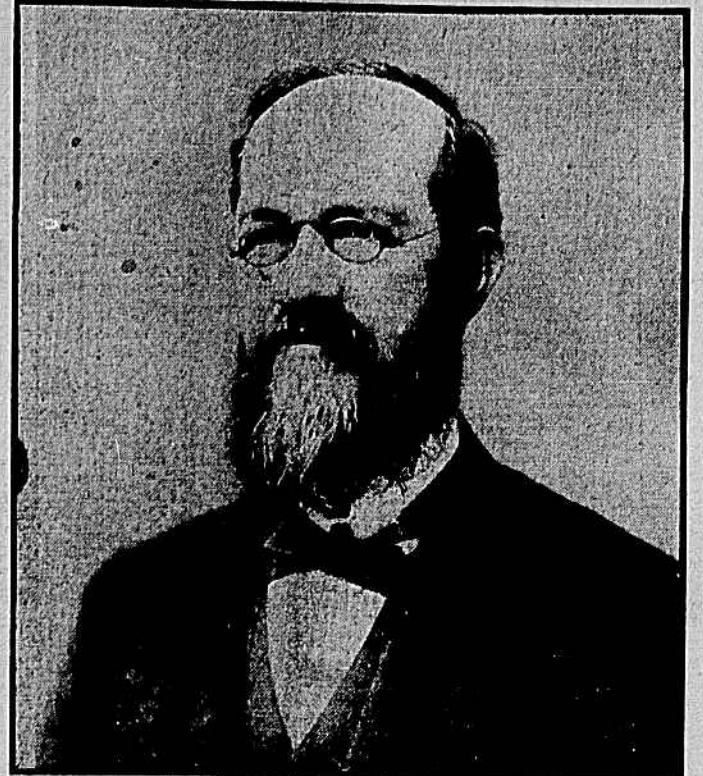
GEORGIA MILITIA AS COAST ARTILLERY

All State Troops Except Cavalry
Will Go Into Camp This
Summer.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—Hoke Smith, Governor-elect of Georgia, in view of the fact that he is to assume office in June, has accepted in behalf of the State the invitation of the War Department to have the Georgia militia join in the State drills with the regular sea coast artillery. The acceptance is conditioned upon the arrangement proposed to Governor-elect Smith by Adjutant-General Scott, who suggests that the Savannah Volunteer Guards, composed of four companies of heavy artillery, as requested in the letter of the Secretary of War, should be designated to act as batteries. The Fourth Regiment of Infantry, composed of six companies, he says, should be designated as the supports, as this regiment has not been in camp since 1903, while all the others have had instruction last year.

The other companies, except the cavalry, General Scott is advised, are making preparations to go into camp at Jamestown, Va., during the fair, which will put practically all of the State troops in camp this year, as contemplated in the national militia act.

WELL-KNOWN METHODIST BISHOP WHO DIED SUDDENLY



BISHOP JOHN C. GRANBERY.
While standing in the library of his home in Ashland yesterday morning, he died suddenly from the effects of heart failure. His funeral will take place at 11:30 o'clock to-morrow morning from Centenary Methodist Church, in this city.

HIGH WINDS SAVE VIRGINIA'S FRUIT

State Is Plunged Into Midwinter
Temperature After Week of
Summer Weather.

FEAR LAST NIGHT'S WORK

Impression Prevails That Snow-
Storm of Sunday Did Really
No Damage.

Virginia, which was sweltering in summer heat all last week, was plunged into midwinter temperature Sunday with a suddenness that made the farmers set up and the notice of his blossoming fruit trees. From every section come reports of snow-storms and high winds. In the latter alone is salvation for growing crops and budding fruit trees. The general opinion is that up to late yesterday no serious damage was done and that the temperature would still have to go down several degrees if the wind continued before frost would suffer greatly.

Reports from many localities follow:

Norfolk.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
NORFOLK, VA., April 1.—At the office of the Southern Produce Company, the truckers' organization here, it was stated to-day that the very severe cold snap of to-day and yesterday has not killed any of the growing crops, and that the truckers do not anticipate any serious damage from its continuance. There is small chance of the freezing point being reached, however, and although the Weather Bureau has orders to continue its northeast storm warning which was ordered up for this coast yesterday, it predicts that the north wind which will make things even more severe will be sufficiently high to prevent frost.

Lynchburg.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
LYNCHBURG, VA., April 1.—After a cold day and the temperature hovering only a few degrees above the freezing point, to-night, grave fears are felt for the safety of the next fruit crops. Owing to the warmest March weather on record, the trees have several weeks further advanced than normal and a fall of half a dozen degrees by morning will practically ruin prospects for all kinds of fruits.

Roanoke.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
ROANOKE, VA., April 1.—The weather has reached freezing to-night, and it appears that considerable damage has been done the early crop of fruit and vegetables in this section. No damage was done by the weather of yesterday and last night, but to-night's intense cold will doubtless kill all early fruit and vegetables.

East Radford.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
EAST RADFORD, VA., April 1.—The cold wave which holds the country in the grip of winter, made its advent Saturday night, with cold rain, which turned into wet snow Sunday, when the mercury stood at 28.

The fact that last night was cloudy and that a strong wind blew all night, it is thought, saved the fruit.

The wind is blowing to-night, but it ceases to blow a heavy frost is expected, which, farmers say, will kill the fruit.

The night is clear and considerable.

(Continued on Third Page.)

NOTABLE SHOWING OF POST-OFFICE

CASH RECEIPTS.
March, 1907.....\$47,465.61
March, 1906.....\$42,316.69
Increase, \$5,148.92, or over twelve per cent.

MRS. THAW HAS BEEN SUMMONED

Jerome Has Her Called as Wit-
ness, But Declines to Explain
Move.

REPORT EXPECTED THURSDAY

Commission Will Sit This Morn-
ing—Jury Asks for \$5 a Day
Compensation.

NEW YORK, April 1.—When Mrs. Evelyn Thaw made her daily visit to her husband in the Tombs to-day she was met by a process-server, who handed her a subpoena directing her to appear before the lunacy commission to-morrow. Mrs. Thaw apparently had not anticipated this move, and she appeared very much disturbed when the nature of the paper was made known to her.

"Do they expect me to testify against my husband?" she asked. She was told that her presence probably was desired merely as a matter of routine, but this did not seem to reassure her. District Attorney Jerome declined to make known his purpose in calling Mrs. Thaw before the commission.

It was said later at the district attorney's office that the reason for having Mrs. Thaw served with a subpoena was that it might be necessary to call her before the commission in lunacy, and that the district attorney decided that in that event it would be better to have her on hand.

It is probable that the Thaw lunacy commission will report Thursday morning. The case was adjourned last week until this morning, and when the jury was called before the court to-day Justice Fitzgerald adjourned again the trial until Thursday morning at 10:30 o'clock. The lunacy commission will meet to-morrow, and it is expected that they will be ready to report Thursday.

In case the commission finds that Thaw is to-day insane within the meaning of the law, the trial will be stopped, but if they find that he is capable of going on, the trial will be resumed at once. It is doubtful if the defense will call any other witnesses.

The members of the Thaw jury have drawn up a petition to Justice Fitzgerald asking him to allow them \$5 a day for jury services instead of the customary \$2. Their action is based on an instance in which the court made a similar increase in the jury's allowance after the case had been extended to its unusual length.

MORSE TO FIGHT OLD DOMINION

Angry at Failure to Secure Steam-
ship Co., He Will Organize a
Competing Line.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
BOSTON, MASS., April 1.—It is stated here to-night that Charles W. Morse is to increase the number of steamers in his combined fleet and establish a line between Boston, New York and Norfolk to fight the Old Dominion Line, which he was unable to secure, owing to the influence of the Pennsylvania-New Haven interests, although the offer turned down by the Old Dominion was a substantial one.

It is predicted that a battle royal for traffic from New England and New York southward along the coast will be fought when the spring rush sets in, as both combinations have unlimited capital and both are held by men who are seasoned warriors in traffic conflicts.

Mr. Charles Melien, president of the New Haven system, which controls the Merchants' and Miners' Line and several important New England steamship lines, is credited with having said: "When this fight ends there will either be a piece of Morse inside of Melien or a piece of Melien inside of Morse."

MAYOR'S MESSAGE RECEIVED BUT NOT READ; SESSION OF COUNCIL HELD

Dabney Electric Light Plant Ordinance Passed With Bond Issue Feature Eliminated.

MUCH HEAT DEVELOPED DURING
DISCUSSION OF PROPOSITION

Mayor Makes Many Recommendations and Urges
Construction of Viaduct From Marshall and
Thirteenth Streets to Church Hill.

One of the most interesting and important, and at the same time one of the most irregular and turbulent sessions in the history of the Common Council was held last night.

The annual message of Mayor McCarthy was submitted, but without being read, it was ordered printed. The veto message of Mayor McCarthy, disapproving the investigation resolution was read at length by Clerk August and the Sergeant-at-Arms by turns. This is a document of more than a dozen typewritten pages, and the reading consumed considerable time. Immediately following it an opinion of the City Attorney, denying the authority of a Mayor to veto a joint resolution of this character was produced, and the reading of this took perhaps as long. At the conclusion of this oral prelude the Council merely received and filed both statements.

MESSAGE OF MAYOR.

The message of the Mayor a typewritten document of about thirty-five pages, is a digest of the annual reports of all the city officers, but is liberally interspersed with suggestions and comments on questions raised therein. The executive commends the work of almost every department of the government, and extracts the gist of the statistical review in each case, thus giving readers of it a concise idea of the status of the city government. He speaks in high terms of the Health Department, and pleads for more funds to extend its work. He urges the importance of an electric plant, of the maintenance of the Water Works and their extension and the of the provision of more adequate fire protection, especially in the business districts. The work of the Police Department is praised and the Chief is commended. The provision of more station men for the Fire Department and the establishment of high pressure pumps for use in fires down town is again urged.

In addition to his careful and exhaustive summary of the reports of officers, the Mayor makes many independent suggestions. He urges the construction of a free steel and concrete viaduct from Marshall and Thirteenth Streets to Church Hill. He suggests the construction of a driveway to the settling basin in order that citizens may enjoy the splendid scenery. He urges the continuation of the Monument Avenue improvement, and the construction of a better road around Libby Hill and Chimborazo Parks to Fulton.

In connection with the Council work he urges that the rules of procedure be so amended as to have the roll-call for resolutions, ordinances, etc., at the beginning instead of in the rush in the close, and cites concrete cases of dangerous measures that almost passed in this irregular procedure.

ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT.

The Council, after disposing of the several messages of the Mayor, suspended the rules and called the rolls for resolutions, ordinances, etc., and under this head the electric light and power plant ordinance was called up. After a turbulent discussion, in which considerable heat was developed, a substitute offered by Mr. Cannon for the Dabney ordinance, and amended by striking out the bond issue feature, was passed by a vote of 19 to 14, the yeas and nays running neck-and-neck until the very end of the roll-call had been reached.

Many ordinances and resolutions of interest were introduced and referred, but nothing else of importance was done.

STORMY SESSION OF COUNCIL HELD

Reviews Work of All Depart-
ments, and Makes Many Im-
portant Recommendations.

Body Receives Mayor's Messages
and Discusses Light Plant
Matter.

The Council was called to order about 8:30 o'clock, and at once got down to work after the usual opening prayer. As soon as the minutes had been disposed of, several communications from the Mayor were read, one in response to a resolution of inquiry enforcing the ordinance relative to reports of city officers and others vetoed by the Mayor. The Mayor's endorsement of members was unusually large, only two of the thirty-five being absent when the business of the body actually began.

Personal Colloquy.

The message of the Mayor vetoing an ordinance authorizing Mr. Joseph Bryan to construct a sewer on Bank Street with an agreement to reimburse him was read, and the question was ordered. "Shall the ordinance pass notwithstanding the veto?"

The vote on the passage of the ordinance was 19 to 14, and the chair declared the veto sustained.

Mr. Cannon moved to reconsider the vote by which the Council had refused to pass the ordinance over the veto.

Mr. Mills made the point of order that the veto of the Mayor having been sustained, a motion to reconsider or refer was out of order.

The chair declared the point not well taken, and ordered the Mayor's message to be read.

Mr. Mills and Mr. Pollock, arbitrarily refused to permit the matter to be discussed, ruling that the reconsideration was in order. The chair and Mr. Pollock became involved in a somewhat personal colloquy, in which each developed some feeling and indulged in no little sarcasm. Finally Mr. Pollock, who was arguing that Mr. Mills's point of order was well taken, was ruled out of order, and he resumed his seat. Mr. Mills, who also attempted to convince the chair of his error, was simply ruled off the chair and Mr. Pollock had appealed from the decision of the chair, but at this point it was agreed by general consent to withdraw all motions and leave the action of the body where it was; that is to say, a motion to reconsider the veto sustaining the veto was left pending.

Authority Questioned.

The message of the Mayor vetoing the joint resolution proposing a committee to investigate certain alleged charges that members of the Finance Committee had violated the charter and their oaths of office and various other proceedings was laid before the Council. The document, a typewritten roll of some 4,500 words, was read in relays by Sergeant-at-Arms Tunkell and Clerk August.

Immediately upon the conclusion of the reading the expected occurred. Mr. Cannon, one of the leaders of the charges that members of the Finance Committee had violated the charter and their oaths of office and various other proceedings was laid before the Council. The document, a typewritten roll of some 4,500 words, was read in relays by Sergeant-at-Arms Tunkell and Clerk August.

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(Continued on Second Page.)

City's Bonded Debt.

The total bonded debt of the city, as of February 1, 1907, including \$105,000 of water bonds, was \$3,127,097.38, an increase in the bonded debt since February 1, 1906, of \$550,450. Bond issues already authorized will increase the bonded debt \$500,000 more—so that the total bonded debt will be \$3,627,097.38 and the increase of the bonded debt, as of this date, over last year, will be \$1,050,450. This will leave a margin of bond issue under the eighteen per cent limit, based on the old territory, of only \$795,673.63, but the \$1,000,000 of realty values in the annexed territory will increase the margin \$720,000, giving a total payable issue of \$1,425,673.62. The bond issues of 1906, added to the issues authorized for 1907, exhaust all the issue based on the new territory, and besides encroach upon the issue based on the old territory to the amount of \$320,450.

It is gratifying to know that of the total bonded debt of \$3,127,097.38, as of February 1, 1907, nearly \$5,389,478, has been reduced from eight, six and five per cent to a four per cent rate of interest. \$313,550 carries five per cent; \$277,373.38 carries six per cent; \$405,900, known as water bonds, carries only three and one-half per cent, and we have now left only \$540,000 of the old eight per cent bonds—all of which will be refunded by January 1, 1909, at a lower rate. The report of the City Treasurer shows a total receipts and disbursements account for the general fund of \$3,305,978.25, and a total receipts and